

Message Text

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FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE MARCH 16, FROM BOGOTA REPEATED
TO YOU QUOTE:

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BOGOTA 2139

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: SNAR, CO

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS: GOC PLAN FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

DEPT PLS DISTRIBUTE AS APPROPRIATE

1. AMB REQUESTED BY MINISTER OF JUSTICE TO ATTEND MEETING MAR
16 TO DISCUSS NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT PLAN WITH CHIEF OF F-2
(INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF NATIONAL POLICE), DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
AND TWO OTHER OFFICIALS FROM MINISTRY JUSTICE, DAS AND CUSTOMS
NOT RPT NOT PRESENT.

2. MINISTER OF JUSTICE PRESENTED PLAN DEVELOPED BY F-2
FOR NARCOTICS INTERDICTION THROUGHOUT COUNTRY. PLAN DIVIDES
COUNTRY INTO FIVE INFORCEMENT DISTRICTS WITH A TEAM OF SIX TO
FOURTEEN MEN ASSIGNED TO EACH DISTRICT (COPY OF COMPLETE PLAN
BEING POUCHED TO DEPT). TO IMPLEMENT PLAN WILL REQUIRE MORE
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OR LESS FOUR MILLION PESOS IN OPERATION EXPENSES AND 8000,000 PESOS IN EQUIPMENT (US\$ 1 EQUIVALENT 23,14 PESOS). MINISTER OF JUSTICE HAD ALREADY PRESENTED PLAN TO THE PRESIDENT WHO APPROVED BOTH PLAN AND ALLOTMENT OF NECESSARY FUNDS FOR OPERATIONAL EXPENSES.

3. BASIC PURPOSE OF MZETING WAS TO ACQUAINT US WITH PROGRESS ACHIEVED AND TO REQUEST OUR COOPERATION IN SUPPLYING THE EQUIPMENT.

4. AMB POINTED OUT THAT A LARGE PART OF THE NECESSARY EQUIPMENT WAS ALREADY IN THE COUNTRY OR ARRIVING THIS MONTH. MINISTER OF JUSTICE MADE STRONG PLEA NOT TO SCATTER EQUIPMENT BY GIVING ONE-THIRD TO CUSTOMS, ONE- THIRD TO DAS, AND ONE- THIRD TO NATIONAL POLICE, BUT TO CONCENTRATE IT IN THE HANDS OF F-2 WHICH HAD PROVED TO BE THE MOST RESPONSIVE IN THE NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT AREA. THE AMB RESPONDED THAT IF IT WAS THE DECISION OF THE GOC THAT EQUIPMENT WULD BEST BE UTILIZED BY F-2, WE WOULD BE QUITE WILLING TO GO ALONG WITH THAT DECISION. HE SUGGESTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE PRES OR THE MINISTER ADVISE THE OTHER TWO AGENCIES OF THIS DECISION. THE AMB ALSO SUGGESTED THAT THIS MIGHT BE AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET DAS AND CUSTOMS TO DEVELOP PLANS ALONG THE SAME LINES AS THAT OF THE NATIONAL POLICE, AND THAT OBVIOUSLY WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO CONSIDER APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE.

5. COMMENT: THE F-2 PLAN PRESENTED BY THE MINISTER IS INDEED ACCEPTABLE TO US. IT COINCIDES WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDED IN THE UPDATED NARCOTICS ACTION PLAN FOR COLOMBIA SUBMITTED IN BOGOTA' S 1152 OF FEB 9. SACCIO UNQUOTE ROGERS

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